6

History-Social Science Standards 6.5.1. and 6.6.1.

CALIFORNIA **EEI** Education and the Environment Initiative
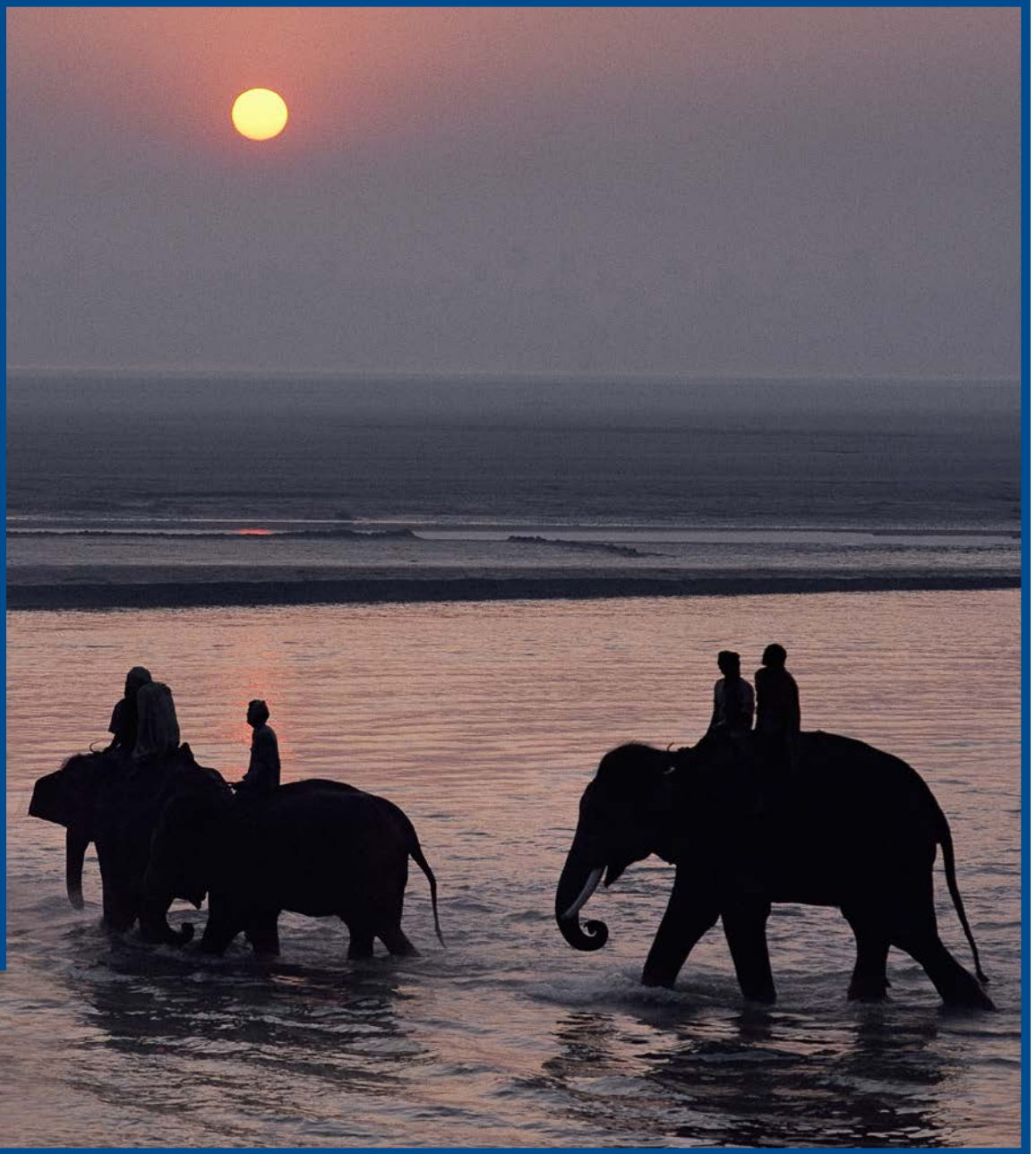
The Rivers and Ancient Empires of China and India

California Education and the Environment Initiative

Approved by the California State Board of Education, 2010

The Education and the Environment Initiative Curriculum is a cooperative endeavor of the following entities:

California Environmental Protection Agency

California Natural Resources Agency

California State Board of Education

California Department of Education

Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle)

Key Partners:

Special thanks to **Heal the Bay,** sponsor of the EEI law, for their partnership and participation in reviewing portions of the EEI curriculum.

Valuable assistance with maps, photos, videos and design was provided by the **National Geographic Society** under a contract with the State of California.

Contents

Lesson 1   The Fertile Fields of Asia

None required for this lesson.

Lesson 2   Rivers and Monsoons

None required for this lesson.

Lesson 3   Goods to Grow Civilizations

None required for this lesson.

Lesson 4   Ancient River Settlements of Northern India

None required for this lesson.

Lesson 5   The Huang He and the Shang Dynasty

None required for this lesson.

Lesson 6   Our Use of Rivers Today

None required for this lesson.

Science Background   Introducing a River System

None required for this lesson.

Assessments

Name: _____

Part 1

Instructions: Select the best answer and circle the correct letter. (2 points each)

1. All of the following are reasons people settled in river valleys except _____.
    a. rivers provided water for crops
    b. rivers provided transportation and trade
    c. rivers provided drinking water for people and animals
    d. rivers provided wood for building houses

2. The rivers that influenced where ancient people settled in India are the _____ and the _____.
    a. Indus; Ganges
    b. Huang He; Pearl
    c. Ganges; Huang He
    d. Indus; Pearl

3. When are the "monsoon" months in India?
    a. December to February
    b. March to June
    c. June to September
    d. September to November

4. Which of the following is not an ecosystem service?
    a. monsoon rains
    b. rivers for transportation
    c. horses for transportation and farming
    d. fertile soil

5. The earliest peoples to settle in the Indus River Valley were _____.
    a. Aryans
    b. Hindus
    c. Harappa
    d. Shang

6. Which river is considered the most sacred in India?
    a. Huang He
    b. Saraswati
    c. Indus
    d. Ganges

Name: _____

7. The Huang He is also called the _____ River.
   a. Purple
   b. Yellow
   c. Brown
   d. Green

Part 2

Instructions: Answer the following questions with complete paragraphs. (3 points each)

8. How were rivers connected with the religions of the people in India and China? Give two specific examples.

   _____

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9. What is the Asian monsoon cycle and why it is important to the people in China and India?

   _____

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Name: _____

Part 3

Instructions: For each statement below, identify the river that is being described: the Indus, the Ganges, or the Huang He. Some rivers may be used more than once. (3 points each)

1. Where the Shang Dynasty began: _____

2. Where Harappa and Mohenjo Daro were located: _____

3. Settlers had to clear jungle along this river to plant crops: _____

4. This river empties into the Bay of Bengal: _____

5. People who lived near this river made the first cotton cloth: _____

Name: _____

Part 1

Instructions: On the map below, label the Indus, Ganges, and Huang He rivers and four specific physical features (for example, rivers, mountains, plateaus, plains, seas, oceans, or deserts). Use proper nouns. (15 points)
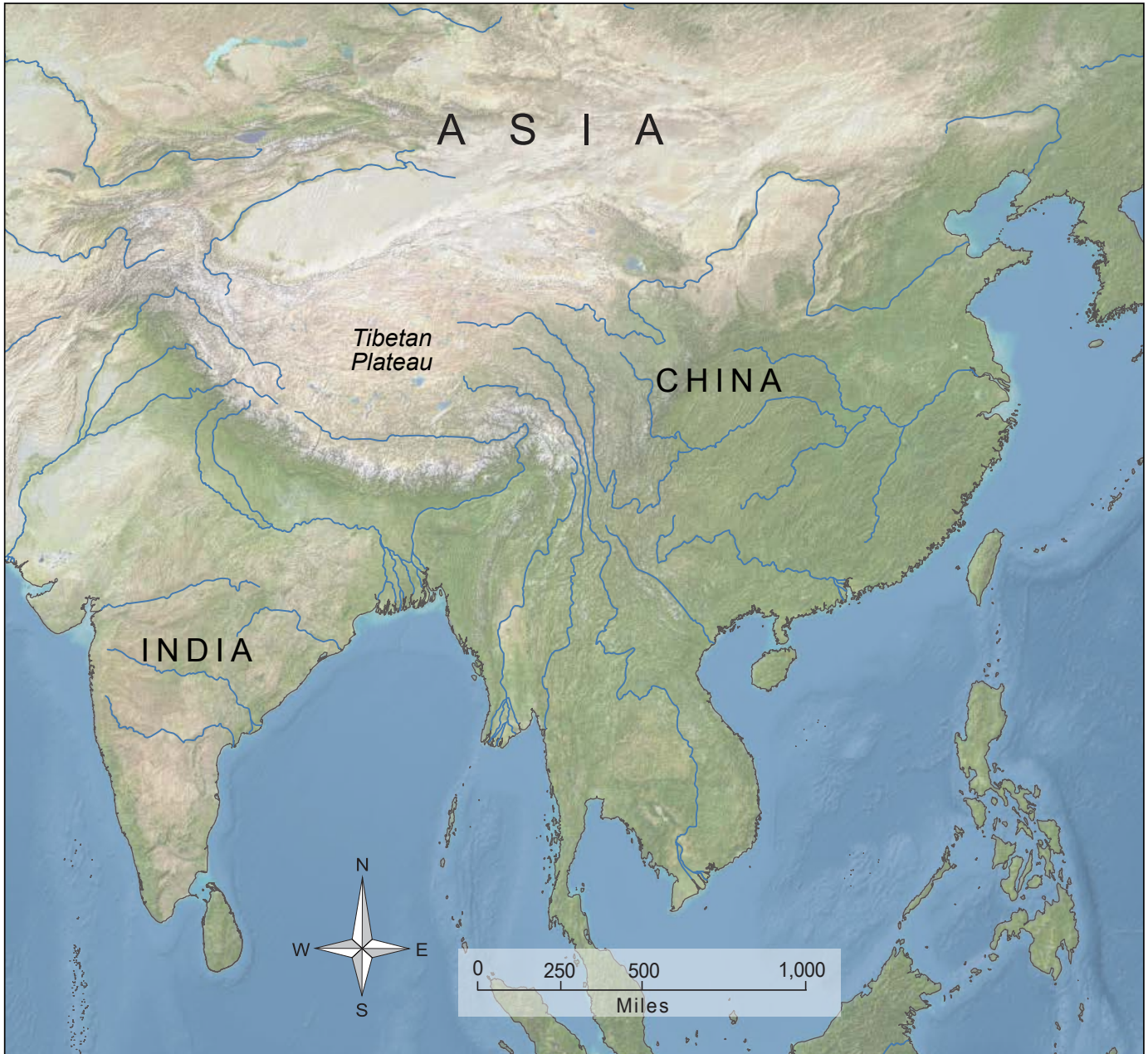
Name: _____

Part 2

Instructions: Write an essay in response to the following question. (16 points)

How did river systems make the Indus, Ganges, and Huang He valleys ideal places to start civilizations? Please use two specific examples from the Indus, the Ganges, and the Huang He river valleys.

The scoring tool for this essay is provided on the page 5.

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River Systems and the Rise of Early Civilizations Scoring Tool

Components	4 points	3 points	2 points	1 point
River systems and features of India or China important to the early civilizations	Correctly identifies all of the river systems (Indus, Ganges, Huang He rivers) and includes four physical features.	Correctly identifies two of the three river systems (Indus, Ganges, Huang He rivers) and includes four physical features.	Correctly identifies one of the three river systems (Indus, Ganges, Huang He rivers) and includes four physical features.	Correctly identifies one of the three river systems (Indus, Ganges, Huang He rivers) and includes two physical features.
Seasonal cycles of river systems that benefited early Indian or Chinese civilizations	Describes a seasonal cycle in a river and three ways it benefited humans and the permanent settlement of early civilizations.	Describes a seasonal cycle in a river and two ways it benefited humans and the permanent settlement of early civilizations.	Describes a seasonal cycle in a river and one way it benefited humans and the permanent settlement of early civilizations.	Identifies a seasonal cycle in a river system.
Importance of water river and systems to human life and social systems	Describes the importance of water and Indian and Chinese river systems to human life and four social systems.	Describes the importance of water and Indian and Chinese river systems to human life and three social systems.	Describes the importance of water and Indian and Chinese river systems to human life and one social systems.	Identifies water or an Indian or Chinese river system as important to human life.
Ecosystem goods and ecosystem services from rivers that helped early civilizations rise	Provides examples of two ecosystem goods and two ecosystem services that influenced ancient Indian and Chinese civilizations.	Provides two examples of ecosystem goods or ecosystem services that influenced ancient Indian and Chinese civilizations.	Provides one example of an ecosystem good and an ecosystem service that influenced ancient Indian and Chinese civilizations.	Provides one example of an ecosystem good or an ecosystem service that influenced ancient Indian or Chinese civilizations.

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